

REMARKS

The present amendment adds an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet and modifies the claim form only so as to eliminate the use of multiple dependency.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated August 16, 2001

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Abstract of the Disclosure

A process for the manufacture of a coating or doctoring blade comprising a band of steel or other form-stable material and a wear-resistant polymer coating applied on said band along a longitudinal edge section thereof subjected to wear, said process comprising the following steps: (a) providing continuous relative movement between said band and an application and treatment station; (b) continuously applying at said station a fast-curing polymer composition along said edge section; (c) allowing the applied composition to spread out so as to reach the very extreme of said edge section and then to cure to form an elastic and tacky-free coating; and, optionally (d) post-curing the coating at an increased temperature; as an alternative to such process there can be used a blade of double width compared to said first band and continuously supplying a fast-curing composition along a longitudinal central section of double width compared to said edge section and longitudinally cutting said second band along the middle of the coated central section thereof to form two tip-coated blades; and a coating or doctoring blade prepared by such process.

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Marked-up Claims 3 to 6, 9 and 10

3. (Amended) A process according to claim 1 [or 2], characterized by roughening said edge (5) or central section (13) before application step b) to improve adhesion of the coating.
4. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, [2 or 3,] characterized by the application of a primer before application step b) to further improve adhesion of the coating.
5. (Amended) A process according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein said fast-curing polymer composition has a pot-life of about 5 to 30 seconds.
6. (Amended) A process according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein said polymer composition is based on a polymer selected from polyurethanes, styrene-butadien polymers, polyolefins, nitrile rubbers, natural rubbers, polyacrylates, polychloroprene, thermoplastic elastomers, and polysiloxanes.
9. (Amended) A process according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein said polymer is applied with a width of about 5 to 40 mm and a thickness of about 1 to 3 mm.

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Marked-up Claims 3 to 6, 9 and 10

10. (Amended) A process according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein said polymeric coating after curing is subjected to a grinding operation to obtain a desired profile.

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